

Army and Navy Chronicle, AND SCIENTIFIC REPOSITORY.

Wm. Q. Force, Editor and Proprietor.—\$5 per annum.—Office corner of 10th & D streets.

Vol. II.—No. 23] WASHINGTON, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7, 1843. [Whole No. 48.

Foreign Selections.

PROPOSED CANAL ACROSS THE ISTHMUS OF PANAMA.

The Journal des Debats has just published the following:

We can now give particulars, and of a more recent date, relative to the maritime canal of the Isthmus of Panama, which has been under consideration for twenty years, and which at present excites the attention of naval powers. An account has been published of the levels taken by Mr. Lloyd, an English engineer, and M. Falmark, a Swedish officer, whom Bolivar employed to explore the Isthmus. From their researches it appeared that the highest point between the two oceans was one hundred and ninety-three metres above the level of the sea at Panama. Such an elevation is within the limits of what may be got over by successive locks. The canal of Burgundy is over three hundred metres higher than one of its extremities, and two hundred than the other. The survey of Messrs. Lloyd and Falmark was not by any means complete. The paper published by Mr. Lloyd, 1830, in the "Philosophical Transactions," proved that he had only made a first rough examination. Mr. Lloyd merely draws on the map two straight lines which he declares offer the most desirable passage for a railroad, and it is stated that if a canal is desired, it will be necessary to go up the Chagres, and afterwards its tributary the Trinidad, from which the line would proceed by one of the currents which flow into the Pacific Ocean, such as the Rio Grande or the Quebra Grande. The question has been since then taken up by several successive associations authorised by the Government of New Grenada, whilst other companies were at work to find out other lines crossing the country dependent on other States. At the head of a society authorised by the Government of Granada was one of those men deemed adventurous by public opinion, because they attempt schemes infinitely above the general run of men's minds, and attribute to themselves means of action which exist only in their imagination or their conversation. The public do not consider that such men deceive no one but themselves, and that they often do much good in directing the attention of Government to grand and useful projects. Such was Baron Thierry, to whom the Republic of New Grenada granted, in 1835, the canal of the two oceans, and who afterwards appeared in New Zealand, and whose death took place not long since. In 1836 other and more favorable terms of concession were published at Bogota, but without result. In 1838, concessions were made to another company, in which were Messrs. Salomon and Co., of Guadaloupe, who stood for three-

fourths in the project. The new company had an engineer, which was a step in advance; a new survey was begun, in the hope of finding something better than the line of Messrs. Lloyd and Falmark, although it was extraordinary that a chain of mountains like the Andes, rising to from 2,000 to 3,000 metres above the level of the sea, should be reduced to one hundred and ninety-three metres. It was known that there existed to the south of the line surveyed by Messrs. Lloyd and Falmark, ponds, lakes, and still-waters of various sorts, which marked the presence of a low soil. The survey of the Chagres, for a distance of about eighty kilometres from Cruces to the sea, had already shown that the general fall of the ground was exceedingly trifling. The engineer of the new company, M. Morel, sat to work and surveyed the most marshy parts of the isthmus. He took this line in preference, thinking, with good reason, that the lines with the least fall should be selected. He marked out several lines, which might be considered as variations. They all spring from the conflux of the Trinidad and the Chagres, and proceed in a right line across a flat and moist district to the Bernardino, a tributary of the Quebra Grande, which falls into the Bay of Chorrera. The line which at first was decreed the best crossed a lake about a league in diameter, to the right of the Trinidad, in the angle formed by the Trinidad and the Chagres. This lake is called Vino-Tinto. From thence the line went towards the southwest, to join the Bernardino, at the spot where it receives the Yequas. From the Bernardino to the neighborhood of the sea a turn was made towards the north to draw near Panama, by following into the Farfan, a tributary of the Rio Grande, a considerable river, which falls into the sea under the ramparts of Panama.

Another line, lately proposed, runs parallel to this, but more to the north. It crosses a different lake from the Vino Tinto, which has not yet received a name (for as yet in those countries all is primitive, and but few lakes, mountains, and rivers, have received appellations (and would fall in with the Bernardino, higher up than the former, and would run along the coast under the hills of Bique, to rejoin the Rio Grande, which was to be crossed to come out at Panama, at the Prieta, whence Messrs. Lloyd and Falmark's survey started. By these various directions, the canal would be about fifty kilometers (about twelve and a half leagues) in length; the sixth part of the canal between the Marne and the Rhine, the fifth of the canal du Midi, and the twelfth of the Erie canal. But what appears almost incredible, M. Morel's survey shows only a height of eleven metres ninety-four centimeters by one line, and ten metres forty centimeters by the other, above the level of the sea at Panama. The basin of La Villette at Paris

placed between the Canal St. Denis and the Canal St. Martin, is twenty-eight metres forty centimeters at one end, and twenty-five metres twenty centimeters at the other, above the Seine. Thus the Corderillas would altogether disappear, and there would be left at the highest point between the two oceans, a rise sufficiently great to allow the water to flow properly. In this way there would be no occasion to construct locks in the canal, except at the extremities, to counteract the effect of the variation of the sea's level, for cuttings of fifteen metres are often made, and a cutting of twenty is neither impossible nor unusual.

Nothing would be more desirable than to make a canal practicable for three-deckers. The only difficulty would be to procure workmen, for the population in those savage countries is but thin. It would be necessary to bring them from North America or the United States, and great precautions would be requisite to guard them against the maladies so rife in the long rainy season. Such is the state of the question at present. The French Government has no reason to distrust the information which has been given to it. Yet it has thought it right to test it accurately. A clever engineer has been sent out to verify the levels furnished by Messrs. Salomon. He will at the same time ascertain of what importance are the coal mines which are said to exist about fifty or sixty kilometres from Panama. In six months, accurate information will be given relative to this undertaking, and the expense will be estimated.

THE FORTIFICATIONS OF PARIS.—The *Bien Public* publishes the following: "A person generally well informed assures us, that the Government, feeling alarmed at the unanimous manifestations made against the fortifications of Paris, had resolved at a secret meeting thus to avoid the difficulty. The Minister will demand of the Chamber supplies merely to have the materials ready for arming the forts. He will, moreover, consent not to arm them, except in case of war; but by means of the new buildings at Vincennes, which will include an immense arsenal, all the forts round Paris may be armed within six hours. If, then, the Chamber permits that cannon foundries or artillery stores be established nearer to Paris than within forty leagues, all legal precautions against the arming of the forts will become illusory. Let the public, therefore, be on their guard. There can be none deceived but those who wish to be so."

The *Commerce* states, that the utmost activity is used to prepare the barracks in the detached forts round Paris for the reception of a military force, although it is evident that the health of the troops must be compromised by being lodged in unfinished buildings at the approach of winter.

The *Reforme* publishes a list of fifty-seven towns and villages which, being placed under the batteries of the forts of Paris, may, according to military laws, on the first report of a war, be razed to the ground, lest they should protect the approach of the enemy. "We do not include in this enumeration," adds that journal, "the innumerable villages, hamlets, manufactories, and other establishments lying under the cannon of the *enceinte continue*, which, in the event

of a siege, must be levelled to the ground." The *Courrier Francais* announces, that on the 1st of November the troops would take possession of the forts of Mount Valerein, Noisy-le-Sec, Rosny, Nogent, Ivry, Charenton, and Issy. It adds that twelve hundred rampart guns, carrying fifteen hundred yards, and made to throw incendiary projectiles to that distance, will be immediately placed in the arsenal of each of those garrisoned citadels. The Government had ordered beacons to be erected on the twenty detached forts, constructing round the capital, as also day and night telegraphs.

SANDWICH ISLANDS.—The *Journal of Commerce* publishes the following protest, issued by Commodore Kearney at Honolulu on the 14th of July, some two or three weeks before the Islands were returned to the native Government.

TO HIS MAJESTY KAMEHAMEHA III, KING OF THE SANDWICH ISLANDS.

In the name and on behalf of the people of the United States of America and their Government, which the undersigned has the honor to represent, and in order to explain clearly for the information of all concerned is issued

A PROTEST.

Whereas a provisional cession of the Hawaiian or Sandwich Islands was made by H. M. Kamehameha III, King, and Kekauluohi, Premier thereof, unto the Honorable George Paulet, Commanding her Britannic Majesty's ship *Carysfort*, to wit: on the twenty-fifth day of February, eighteen hundred and forty-three; and whereas the United States' interest and those of their citizens resident in the aforesaid Hawaiian Islands are deeply involved in a seizure of His Majesty's Government under the circumstances, as well as to the act of the aforesaid King and Premier, according thereto under protest or otherwise, to affect the interests above cited:

Now therefore be it known, that I solemnly protest against every act and measure in the premises; and do declare that from and after the date of said cession until the termination of the pending negotiations between His Majesty's envoys and the Government of Her Britannic Majesty, I hold His Majesty Kamehameha III, and Captain Lord George Paulet, answerable for any and every act by which a citizen of the United States, resident as aforesaid, shall be restrained in his just and undisputed rights and privileges, or who may suffer inconvenience or losses, or be forced to submit to any additional charges on imports or other revenue matters, or exactions in regard to the administration of any municipal laws whatever, enacted by the "Commission" consisting of his Majesty King Kamehameha III, or his deputy of the aforesaid Islands, and the Right Hon. Lord George Paulet, Duncan Forbes Mackay, Esq., and Lieutenant Frere, R. N.

Given under my hand, on board the U. S. ship *Constellation*, at anchor off Honolulu, Oahu, this eleventh day of July, eighteen hundred and forty-three.

LAWRENCE KEARNEY,

Commander-in-chief of the U. S. naval force in the East Indies.

Domestic Miscellany.

NAUTICAL EDUCATION.

LETTER FROM A FRIEND TO A YOUNG GENTLEMAN OF MARYLAND, ON HIS ENTRANCE INTO THE NAVY OF THE UNITED STATES.

The interest I feel in all that concerns the happiness of your parents, and the hopeful presages inspired by a knowledge of your personal qualities, uniting with a strong partiality for every thing connected with the navy, prompt me to congratulate you on your entrance upon a career well calculated to influence auspiciously your fortunes and character, and must plead my apology for addressing you this letter of opinion and advice.

The very commission, which, if attentive to your duties and studies, you will soon receive, has hitherto implied the possession of honor and courage, and proved a passport, in all parts of the world, alike to the saloons of beauty and the halls of philosophy: in a word, to all that is curious, useful, and captivating, in the literary, the scientific, and the beau monde. What training or sphere, then, so well fitted to polish and improve the manners and the mind? How different, in many important respects, are the results of a *nautical* education, from that acquired in some other military schools, where all is stationary and monotonous; where, for a series of years, the pupils are all surrounded by the same external objects, and undergo identical impressions, and that, too, precisely at that plastic stage in their growth when mind and character take their *set*, and are thus forced to come out, all with one uniform impress, like so many casts from the same mould! A course of instruction so artificial and exact will doubtless turn out good mathematicians, men going through life with "heads up," "eyes right," and honor bright; thinking, talking, and walking, with wonderful precision and with wonderful sameness; while in the navy, for diversified incident and observation, you have the whole "world before you where to choose." From early youth to settled manhood, under the stripes of the star-spangled banner, you are transported to all parts of the habitable globe, and afforded opportunities, if not to study carefully, at least to observe, for practical uses, all the varieties of your own race; from the fair and beautiful Caucasian, with expanded forehead, and long, soft, and flowing hair, for more than three thousand years the "depositories and guardians of knowledge," down to the African, with his black skin and woolly head, with no ideas except such as are incidental to the chase and to perpetual wars. Not different races and nations only, but all their varieties of Government, the staples of their agriculture, the commodities of commerce and manufactures, the elements of their natural history and national power, are all brought under the view of the *officer of the navy*; amplifying his materials, and augmenting his powers of entertainment and of usefulness to his friends and his country.

But, my young friend, you must remember that, to turn these eminent advantages to account, you

must travel *arrectis auribus* through the world—you must be ever on the alert. Some would discourage you from going into society in foreign ports, for occasional recreation. Far from joining in that opinion, I subscribe to that of Horace, "*Dulce est decipere in loco*," which may be translated into the homely adage, "All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy." I would have you, then, with the approbation of your commanding officer, embrace fair opportunities of mingling in the best society of the places where your ship may touch on her cruise, or be stationed, preferring that of the fair sex, never failing in respectful attention to the *matrons* of the company, and particularly to the *hostess*. A discriminating commanding officer will gladly afford suitable opportunities to enjoy such society, and the benefits of its improving and polishing influence, to such of his young gentlemen as he sees are disposed to profit of them. I have heard it remarked of the late Captain John Smith, the beau-ideal of a polished gentleman, that he always made it a point, when invited to parties on shore, to take with him some of his "*Mid-dies*." That you will be thus favored by your present commander, I will venture to promise, if you preserve your good manners, and forget not the good principles instilled by your mother. And here, lest it be elsewhere forgotten, let me exhort you to permit nothing to hinder you, when abroad, from *writing by every opportunity to your mother*. You owe much, it is true, to your father; he spares no expense on your education; denies you no indulgence that is safe and becoming to the son of a gentleman, whose temper is generous, and whose means are ample. In him you have an exemplar of the manly virtues. But search your heart for what in it is best; for the sentiment of filial and fraternal affections; for benevolence to the poor, pity for the unfortunate, and reverence for the precepts of virtue and religion; for principles that will carry you through life, without fear and without reproach; self-examine, and my life for it you will find, that as maternal love hath planted, so it is maternal anxiety that hath nourished these virtues. In thus always offering his first homage to his *mother*, the son but consults the father's feelings and judgment, while he follows the example of the most illustrious men of modern and of ancient times. I may here cite you that of one of the most accomplished and exemplary men of his age in any country, whose learning is equalled only by his unobtrusive modesty, a worthy descendant of the immortal Franklin, and already the president of the most munificently endowed literary institution in this country. Professor Bache, during four years that he kept the head of every class, devoted a portion of *every Sunday to the sacred duty of writing to his mother*. I might go back and refer you to the instance of the great historian of the Roman empire, and his recorded acknowledgment of an unpayable debt of gratitude to his *mother*. And here, while alluding to the illustrious Gibbon, let me, the more forcibly to inculcate his *fondness for books*, quote from his autobiography this further declaration: "I would not," says he, "exchange my love of study for all the wealth of the Indies." He who has prized

and cultivated the affections of mother and sisters has an ever active stimulus to the performance of generous and heroic deeds. How rejoiced, he will say to himself, will be my parents and sisters, when they hear or read the plaudits bestowed on their son and brother.

Do not, my young friend, entertain the apprehension that your proper nautical education and professional duties will necessarily engross all your time, leaving you none to gather the trophies of literature—trophies the more honorable and conspicuous for being plucked by the sailor in the midst of professional hardship and exposure, as the light of the fire-fly increases in brilliancy with the darkness that surrounds it. Pliny, even in bear-hunting, employed the intervals of the chase in reading, and Erasmus composed in a chaise on his journeys. Be it your maxim, then, that *no time should be lost*, and that one's education is *never finished* while there is an eye to see or an ear to hear. "Time is short and science long." When not on watch at sea, and when lying in port, you will have leisure to cultivate at least a general knowledge of history, and to make yourself familiar with the most celebrated voyages and travels, and with the "laws of nations," and the currency and commerce of different countries. All of these are necessary accomplishments for every gentleman, and some of them, especially a knowledge of the laws of nations and the general principles of our own Government, *indispensable to the officer of the navy*. On his acquaintance with these, when acting in the proud and enviable station of a commander of an American squadron on a foreign coast, may depend, not only the lives and property of his fellow-citizens in distant lands, but the peace and honor of his own country.

In regard to the study of general history, I may quote you, more for its truth than its eloquence, one passage from an eulogy pronounced by Hume himself—and where could we look for better authority? "I must add," says he, in his essay on the study of history, "that it is not only a valuable part of knowledge, but opens the door to many other parts, and affords materials to most of the sciences; and, indeed, if we consider the shortness of human life, and our limited knowledge even of what passes in our own time, we must be sensible that we should be forever children in understanding, were it not for this invention, which extends our experience to all past ages and to the most distant nations; making them contribute as much to our improvement in wisdom as if they had actually laid under our observation. A man acquainted with history may be said, in some respects, to have lived from the beginning of the world, and to have been making continual additions to his stock of knowledge in every century."

With respect, however, to the study of general history, my impression has always been that the time given to it by *young people*, before they can enter into its true spirit and appreciate its uses, is rarely fruitful of any profitable result. Of what avail is a mere chronological remembrance of names and dates, without being able to trace to their political head-springs the great actions and events with which

they are connected, and thence deduce political inferences and results applicable, for practical purposes, to our own times and to the existing condition and prospects of our own country and its interests? Books, like diet, it seems to me, should be adapted to the age of those to whom they are given, beginning with what is light and natural and proceeding from gay to grave, from lively to severe—from entertaining narratives, and voyages, and fiction, and poetry, to history, and philosophy, and science. Thus the mental and the physical constitution, nourished and sustained by appropriate aliment, grow and ripen congenially together from cartilage into bone—from the ductile softness and eager curiosity of youth to adult ripeness and vigor. At your time of life, it were better to begin with *voyages*, as being not only more engaging, but more in the track of your profession. And, my young friend, you know not how much we land-lubbers envy those whose pursuits, whether of pleasure, of gain, or of duty, carry them to the very scenes where they may realize, as it were, the dreamy associations with which early reading has invested all classical grounds.

"————— for the lore

Of mighty minds doth hallow in the core

Of human hearts the ruin of a wall

Where dwelt the wise and wond'rous."

Well written and authentic *travels*, too, may be recommended, as being at once captivating, instructive, and digestible, if I may so express myself; and of both voyages and travels your friends may feel assured, that when once you have got a taste, it will prove as the taste of blood to animals of sanguinary temperament—the least smell of it ever after fires them with indomitable ardor in pursuit of the game. Once fairly afloat with Captain Cook in the good ship Endeavor, and you will gladly sail with him in all his circumnavigations of the globe. And then you may embark with Van Couver and Porter for the Pacific, and again with Parry and Ross for the North Pole. And though your generous sympathies cannot but be deeply excited when you come to read the story of the melancholy, and, until lately, mysterious fate of La Perouse, the accomplished French navigator, lost in the Astrolabe on a voyage of discovery, far from having your love of nautical adventure repressed by that memorable disaster, your regrets will be absorbed or diverted in admiration of the noble and munificent enterprises which followed, to discover, and, if yet alive, to relieve him and his unfortunate comrades. Every generous heart must be disposed to honor the noble impulses which prompted these benevolent and romantic attempts to lift the veil which concealed from anxious relatives and a curious world the last moments of gallantry and genius, exploring unknown regions, to extend the boundaries of civilization and science; and, though all these chivalrous attempts proved abortive, leaving for accident to unravel what wealth, and power, and science, and patriotism, failed to discover, yet all goes to show how true it is, and how wisely it has been so ordained by Providence, that hope should spring "eternal in the human breast." From the

sad story of the *Astrolabe* and the *Buossolo*, your mind will naturally turn to the yet unexplained loss of our own ships, the *Wasp** and the *Epervier*, whose youthful commanders contributed so much to our stock of naval renown. But what though no buoy mark the treacherous rock on which they split, nor beacon-light nor chart of mariner designate the spot where these gallant barks were foundered or exploded, nor story of one solitary survivor relate the dreadful finale of their brief and brilliant career—still shall the names of Blakely and Shubrick be their sufficient epitaph; bright as the glory they won for their country, and lasting as the spirit of chivalry itself, with a spell in them to awaken mingled emotions of sorrow and emulation in the bosom of every true-hearted cavalier.

"A tomb is theirs on every page,
An epitaph on every tongue;
The present hours, the future age,
For them bewail, to them belong.
For them the voice of festal mirth
Grows hush'd, *their name* the only sound;
While deep remembrance pours to worth
The goblet's tributary round."

Pardon this heartfelt apostrophe to gallant spirits, whose lots have had, alas! too many parallels in the brief existence of our little navy. Where and how were lost the *Insurgent* frigate in 1800, and since then the *Pickering*, and the *Hornet*, and the *Lynx*, and the *Flying Fish*, besides gunboats, never heard of? All, all, with their gallant commanders and crews, in the "dark unfathomed caves of ocean" buried.

And why, my young friend, should we desire to uncurtain these sad catastrophes, to expose the last desperate and unavailing struggles of tempest-tossed and drowning mariners to the public gaze? Sure are we that all was done to save their ships that skill could order or courage execute. No cheek was blanched, no arm was paralyzed, by premature and cowardly despondency. Let, then, imagination, the offspring of darkness, and hope enduring with uncertainty, do their kind offices, and continue to invest the fate and character of these brave commanders with a yet livelier and more romantic interest, even as passing clouds seem to add supernatural lustre to the silver brightness of the moon!

As among those whose voyages you will read, of course, I may name those of Byron, and Wallis, and Cartaret, and Waddell, and Morel, and Reynolds, and Ruschenberger, in the Southern Hemisphere; and, again, you will explore the Northern with Foster, and Phillips, and others. But in respect both of voyages and travels, and governments and statistics, you will most becomingly begin with what has been written authentically of *your own country*; because, in your intercourse with foreigners, you would blush to be ignorant of the outlines of American geography, and Government, and internal resources, or of

* Is it not strange that none of our new sloops have been named after the *Avon* and the *Reindeer*, captured by Blakely? It would seem to be due to this gallant son of the old North State, who did herself immortal honor by the care she bestowed on Blakely's daughter and only child.

the lives of distinguished American statesman and warriors—of Washington, and Adams, and Jefferson, and Hamilton, and Lee, and King, and Pike, and Perry, and Decatur. With all these facts and biographies, and many others equally worthy of being studied and known, you may rely on it, that, with any thing like preserving devotion of your leisure hours, on shore and on ship-board, for a few years, you may make yourself familiar.

In pursuance of this suggestion, before you set out with some foreign author to scale the the snow-capt summit of Mont Blanc, or with Stevens, to view, from the heights of a peninsular mountain, at one *coup d'œil*, the broad expanse of the *Atlantic and Pacific Oceans*, you will take care to have travelled, in your own country, with Lewis and Clarke across the Rocky Mountains, with the gallant and lamented Pike up the Missouri, with the unpretending, indefatigable, and accomplished Long (who was the first to ascend the Missouri *by steam*, in a boat built, engineered, commanded, and piloted under and by himself) to the sources of the St. Peter, and with Dwight through New England. From a foreigner, Botta, you will get the then best history of our revolutionary war, while the learned and eloquent Bancroft will have supplied you with a more elaborate and complete history of the United States. Akin to these, you will read the life of Columbus, from the fertile and polished pen of Irving, and Prescott's "*Ferdinand and Isabella*"—all necessary to a complete knowledge of the discovery and of the formation of the American Colonies, and of their development from a state of colonial dependence to the rickety condition of separate Governments, and to the adoption of our present republican system.

With this history and these facts, respecting the United States, you will make yourself acquainted, before you set out to accompany Mayor in England, and Young and Moore in France, and Townsend and Slidell in Spain, and Eustice on his classical tour in Italy. With Brydone in hand, you may journey in Sicily and Malta, and then accompany the sprightly and charming Lady Montagu through Germany, and into the baths and the very harems of Constantinople, which Achmet is said to have opened to her ladyship, under the influence of a power so universal as sometimes to disarm the proudest despot, ay, and, more miraculous, to soften the heart of the miser! Next you may ramble with the eloquent Volney through Syria and Egypt; in Greece and Palestine with the flowery and fascinating Chateaubriand; in eastern Asia and Australia with Elphinstone, Burns, Heber, Malcolm, Macartney, and Lord Amherst. And afterwards you may explore benighted Africa with Ali Bey, Denon, Bruce, and the adventurous and ill-fated Park. Be not terrified, my young gentleman, at this brief enumeration of the works of distinguished travellers and navigators. You will have "time and to spare" to read, besides these, the great collections of Hackluyt, and Hawks-worth, and Kotzebue, and Dalrymple, with many more; for, thanks to that most stupendous of all human inventions, *types*, you may pack into one good "sea chest" all that has been described by these au

thors, reaping profit from their expenditure, extracting pleasure from their toils, appropriating, if diligent, the fruits of both to your own use and benefit, before you can expect to mount a "swab" on each shoulder; and only reflect, my lad, what glorious distinction such acquirements will procure you, ensuring you currency and honor among lovely women and great and wise men, where neither base lucre, nor brute courage, nor brazen impudence, could open you the way. Of all titles to distinction, of all species of renown, covet such most as are to be commanded by the force of intellect and the display of elegant attainments, with unsullied honor for their *point d'appui*.

But let me not forget to urge that, by all means, and at every opportunity, you seek to acquire a speaking knowledge of the *living languages* most in use, especially the *French* and *Spanish*. For the instruction of young officers in these tongues, and in the highly useful as well as ornamental art of *drawing*, I hope yet to see *competent teachers employed in our men-of-war*, as they are now employed to teach *officers of the army*, to whom a knowledge of French is not more necessary than to officers of the navy, a knowledge of drawing not much more so, and of Spanish not as necessary as to the naval officer. The practical value of this elegant art, and of these living languages, cannot be overrated; and ignorance of them will be regarded as a reproach to the commander of an American sloop of war, when the *Government* shall have added the advantage of elementary instruction to so many opportunities as are presented to officers of the navy in Europe and in the West Indies. Let him, then, whose want of these tongues drives him to employ an interpreter in critical negotiations, or in *affaires de cœur*, beware of the too common experience of those who employ go-betweens to arrange what all men of caution and spirit are jealous about trusting to third persons, but like rather to keep all in their own hands. It may be asserted that either of these languages, and especially the French, will be more useful to you, as a man of the world, than Hebrew, Greek, and Latin united, even allowing them to be possessed with all the minute and critical accuracy of a Porson.

If, finally, you should have perceived how my high estimate of the effect of an early addiction to books on the happiness and character of an officer has carried me away, and led me to omit any thing like a formal lecture on morals, it is, frankly, because I have little confidence in mere *black-letter homilies or dogmas stereotyped*! My persuasion is, that the love of knowledge for its own sake, and ambition for intellectual eminence, having once fairly taken possession of the heart, it thenceforth becomes disinfected of vulgar and vicious propensities, just as you will see air and chloride of lime employed to desiccate and purify the hold of your ship, or as noxious vapors on land are dissipated by electricity. I ought not, however, to close this long, and, as I fear you find it, tedious letter, without a word to caution you, as to your *social habits and the choice of your companions*. One pregnant source of trouble and of personal difficulties with young men shut up in a man-

of-war, and coming into close contact at all hours and in all humors, consists in the natural proneness of youthful and unsophisticated minds to run, as boys do from school, by a hop, skip, and jump, from new acquaintance to friendship, and from friendship to *intimacy*! Void of guile, and as yet untaught by sad experience to practise forecast or to harbor suspicion, they rush to extremes, making *confidants* of every boon companion. The confider soon becomes, in his turn, the confident and chosen depository of the joys and griefs, the loves and the hates, of so many, that no caution nor address can keep him clear of the innumerable quarrels, jealousies, and cabals, engendered yet more, in proportion, in ships of war than in the larger world without. Be you always attentive and respectful, without being obsequious to your superiors; never join in any cabals or combinations against those whom the law and the regulations of the service have placed over you. If you feel aggrieved or oppressed, there is in every case authority to which just and respectful appeal may be made, with assurance of protection from contumely or wrong. To your companions and messmates be ever polite and kind, sharing with them freely and unostentatiously any little enjoyments or indulgences which parental fondness or kinder fortune may sometimes, without any breach of discipline, throw in your way; but beware of seeking *confidences*, or of giving up your heart and all its secrets to every new acquaintance with that *abandon*, as the French express it, with which a young lover yields up his whole heart and soul to his mistress. Avoid *familiarity*, in all cases, as you would sunken rocks and shoals. It should not be indulged, even between brother and sister, and is, moreover, vulgar in itself. In the intercourse of the world, it seldom happens that we can choose our associates; but, whether by choice or necessity, we must associate, and we may be always respectful, and of course exact respect. In the choice of your messmates and most *habitual* companions, instead of preferring, as many, old and young, are apt to do, the company of obsequious sycophants, or persons of inferior intelligence, for the sake of having their own consequence and self-complacency flattered and gratified, it is both allowable and politic for every one rather to desire association with comrades who are endowed with attainments more various and erudition more profound than his own. Where circumstances thus read or subject several minds to habitual communion, the constant tendency of all is to a common level, like that which is assumed by the water of so many adjacent springs, when channels of confluence are opened between them—the law of intellectual partnership being somewhat agrarian; reversing the rules of Dilworth and Cocker, it assigns the largest dividend to him who contributes the smallest share to the concern. But I cannot lay down my pen without returning to insist on the delightful and salutary pursuit of literature, maintaining, with the utmost confidence, that there is nothing in your occupation and duties to preclude its indulgence. Adopt, then, in this case, the well-known motto of Lord Dundas, "*Essayez*," "*Try*," as the gallant Miller

promised, when ordered to storm a redoubt, and you will, in like manner, drive all difficulties before you.

I might present you, were it not invidious, some honorable examples of the successful culture of letters and acquirement of various languages by officers of the navy while on service. Slidell, and Maury, and Ruschenberger, and (I like to name a purser, having been once myself of the honorable fraternity of marine sub-treasurers) J. Hambleton, with many others, doubtless, equally worthy of honorable mention. Finally, I lay it down, not as a dogma, (for though I love dogs, I hate dogmas and dogmatists,) but as my strong impression, for the truth of which I would appeal to the port-folios of their families and friends, and to the archives of the Department, to show that the current correspondence of officers of the navy generally evinces habits of close discrimination, general grammatical accuracy, and an easy flow of language, combined with a brevity and force of expression which may be deemed professionally characteristic. I speak of them as a class, to which it must be admitted there are some conspicuous and disparaging exceptions. And be it borne in mind, by all who have power to exercise control in the matter, that these *exceptions* will be merged and lost in the *general degradation of the corps*, when that fatal day shall arrive that appointments to the service come to be expected, and are bestowed as the reward of *service to a party*!—when *party spirit*, like the baneful nightshade, shall infuse itself through the system, to poison the fountains of its glory, by corrupting all perception of true honor and patriotism, substituting servility to the powers that be, for that pride of character and of country which, far more than its numbers, have constituted at once the strength and the renown of the American navy.

I well know that not many even of the books that I have enumerated, with many more that are equally worthy of persual and study, are to be found in our ships of war at present; but there are none of them which ought not to be there; and we may confidently expect that, under the guardian care of an enlightened administration, we may look for more ample provision for the moral and intellectual culture of those who are hereafter to bear so large a part in defending the rights and honor of their country. Solicitude for the improvement of the *morale* of the junior will be extended to the recommendation of higher rank for the senior class of officers. In short, we may hope all that can will be done to revive, through all ranks of the service, that *esprit de corps*, and rigid observance of discipline, which can alone ensure for the navy lasting efficiency and popularity. And now, my young friend, that you may acquire distinction and high rank, in a path beset by eager and honorable rivals, and finally fulfil the measure of parental hope, is the sincere wish of your friend.

J. S. S.

A vessel having taken fire in Boston harbor, Capt. Sturgis, with that promptitude which he has ever displayed in times of danger, immediately put off to the burning vessel with a crew of eight men, with buckets, and extinguished the fire before any further assistance was rendered.

From the N. Y. Mercury.

DEATH IN HIGH PLACES.

"Death, the great counsellor, who man inspires
With every nobler thought and fairer deed;
Death, the deliverer, who rescues man;
Death, the rewarder, who the rescued crowns."

It is well occasionally to review the doings of this great leveler of the human race, were it only to mark his impartiality. If ever he *was* partial, it has been in recent times, to public functionaries of the United States. The frequency of death in high places of late is remarkable. To say nothing of the long list of official men, whose dust is now with the long line of low monuments in the Congressional Burial-ground, within the past two or three years, the fatal wand of the great disenchanter has touched many of the sons of ambition and fame, and turned them to cold and lifeless clay. If this article should meet the eye of any of this class, let it not be passed too lightly over, since they are in the shambles, and will soon have to go the same way. A little while since, Rodgers sat at the head of the Navy Board, and was enrolled at the head of the Navy List. His name has been transferred to the roll of Death, and the hardy sailor has cast his last anchor in the grave. He sleeps among the brave, the fair, the eloquent, and the wise—as *they were*. In the same neighborhood lies Tingey, who for many years served under the Government of his country. After sailing many years over the sea of life, sometimes in the tempest, he too, made fast near his comrade. Not far was he carried from his command at the navy-yard to his lowly bed in the earth. "Earth to earth, dust to dust." Next followed Stevens, struck down from the same station by the unconquerable foe, the conqueror of all, who never strikes his flag to the boldest and the bravest. At night, Stevens was in the midst of life; in the morning, the spirit had departed! It was a time of sudden death among public men. He was joined unto the congregation of the dead. It was not long before Patterson followed. He that was brave and troublesome to the foe at New Orleans, rejoicing in the common victory over the armed myrmidons of England, could not maintain the conflict with the old enemy, equally expert and dreadful on the land and on the sea. He struck his colors and was conveyed to the silent companionship of the Commodores and Generals, whom the Spoiler has delivered over to the guardianship of the grave.

How sleep the brave who sink to rest
By all their country's wishes blest!

But if the power of arms does not avail with this foe, still less does he yield to the force of arguments or the eloquence of appeals. If the warrior must lay his laurels at his feet, the statesman and the civilian cannot be expected to do less. On the 4th of July, 1842, Samuel L. Southard, acting Vice President of the United States, and Francis S. Key, an eminent lawyer, each delivered an eloquent address at the East lawn of the Capitol, under the grateful shade of wide-spread trees, to a multitude of Sabbath School teachers and children. Before the revolution of another Independence Day, they had both ceased from among the living, and were entombed with the low-

ly dead. Key, like Pinckney of Maryland, and Webster of New Hampshire, died in the midst of action. Almost literally were they carried from the bar to the grave: from the high elevation of mental toil to the lifeless inanity of death. But they had done well in their day and generation, and left an untarnished name to their friends and country. Not only was the Senate, the House, the Bar, and the Army visited by the great Leveler, but the judicial Bench has received a summons. Marshall, its light and its glory, *ornamentum lumen et decus*, as Cicero would say, had not long disappeared; but it was by the slow process of disease, preadmonishing his friends that they must prepare their minds for the extinction of that illustrious light. But Philip Barbour, who sat on his left, had no warning. His spirits ran high at night. In the morning he was dead. No friend was near to witness his last agony, to receive his last breath. He was found in his bed a mass of clay—the spirit gone! Save me from thus dying! If kind Heaven will deign to answer that prayer, oh may my eyes, as they grow dim in the last struggle, look on the faces of those that love me, see perhaps the starting tear, and read in the expression of the features of the living, that sympathy for the dying which is above all price. At the funeral of Judge Barbour, Rev. George G. Cookman, then Chaplain to Congress, delivered an address in his usual style, which was distinguished for simplicity, pathos, and power. He delivered his message to the great ones before him with fidelity, as well as feeling. "Be wise now, therefore," said he, "oh ye rulers, be instructed, ye judges of the earth, kiss the Son, lest he be angry," &c. In a few weeks he went down into the depths of the ocean, with all on board the President. The President! what a fatal name was that in 1841! Returning from the Inauguration of Harrison, I met Cookman. He shook me by the hand "Farewell," said he, "I am off to England. I am going to visit my aged father, and to drop a tear on the grave of my mother." Alas! he was neither to see the one, nor weep over the dust of the other. "Nor wife, nor friends, nor sacred home," was he again to see. That tremendous catastrophe bereaved, in his case, a wife and six children of their husband and father. Oh Death! all modes, as well as "all seasons, are thine own." In this way was the Conqueror dealing out his fatal shafts on the right hand and on the left, when, as if to attract a degree of attention he had never yet commanded since the day that Washington obeyed his high behest, he struck at the loftiest victim he could find, and the nation trembled under the blow. The Inauguration of Harrison was sublime—but the funeral, who shall describe it? That was a day never to be forgotten. And who was that Chief, that rode at the head of the many brave men, tried in battles on the land and the sea, who in full military dress followed the mortal remains of the then Commander-in-Chief to that last resting place? Macomb: and in a few weeks the solemn sepulchral rites were performed for him. He had, when in health, described the peculiar style of the military salute to the deceased President, as the body was borne to the tomb. The Ma-

jor General's salute was soon paid to him! Such is life!

Never did those lines of Gray appear more true and impressive than after reviewing such a history!

"The boast of heraldry, the pomp of power,
And all that beauty, all that wealth ere gave,
Await alike the inevitable hour.

The paths of glory lead but to the grave."

Edmund Burke not only exclaimed poetically, "What shadows we are, and what shadows we pursue," but in homelier prose said, he "would not give a peck of refuse wheat for all that is called *fame* in the world." If this was his testimony in life, what must it have been in death? Shall not this nation see in all this the hand of Providence? J. N. D.

U. S. FLYING ARTILLERY.—Just as it has become the pride of the army, the rumor comes, in a tolerably certain form, that this gallant corps is to be disorganized. The excuse is the expense. But, that it is utterly unjust to apply this rule of curtailment to this corps, is manifest to all who know any thing about the expenditures of the Government. It sometimes almost looks like raising a smoke to cover a retreat. If any part of the service, naval or military, begins to be popular, that moment some spell begets it, it is attacked, crippled, and disabled. It *may* be meant as a blind to the public. It may be as much as to say, you perceive how economical we are when we are obliged to cut down our favorite arm of the service, to lay up this gallant frigate, or dismantle that noble fort. But notwithstanding all this parade of economy, we say that the Government is annually a loser in its contracts to the extent of millions, either by a convenient want of vision, or by its reckless patronage of favorites; and this is no new thing either, nor confined to any one administration.

We understand that the Generals of Division and Brigade in this city and its vicinity have taken the rumor of the destruction of Capt. Duncan's command very seriously to heart. They are determined to prevent it if possible. They demand that this "School of the Soldier" shall be preserved. They consider that it is precisely such a model as is wanted for imitation and study. Petitions will be got up forthwith, and forwarded to Congress.—*N. Y. True Sun.*

NEWLY INVENTED SHOT.—Some novel experiments with cylindrical shot were made last week, on the sands adjoining the Rimrose Hotel, Bootle. They were all filled with combustible matter, similar to the rocket, and fired from a piece of ordnance. At the range of 1000 yards, or more, they would be found most effective against cavalry or infantry, setting fire to magazines, shipping, &c. The cylindrical form is much better adapted than the spherical for live shot or shells, the bulk and weight being increased nearly one half, the usual windage entirely prevented, and the requisite charge of powder much reduced. The shots were prepared at the foundry of Messrs. Fawcett & Co., and are for a foreign Government.—*Liverpool Mercury.*

Communication.

CURSORY REMARKS ON THE MILITARY OFFENCE OF DRUNKENNESS.—*Illustrated by extracts from the decisions of British Courts Martial.*

As the degree of criminality attached to drunkenness, under the rules and articles of war, appears not to be satisfactorily settled, a few remarks on, and illustrations of, the subject may not be ill-timed or unacceptable. A difference of opinion, in this respect, has been entertained by officers of the army, and probably still exists. If this difference arise from want of due investigation or reflection, it may be removed; and even if from vagueness in the laws, or uncertainty in the practice under them, still something beneficial may be done.

Drunkenness is specially made an offence by our military laws only in the "45th article of war." This article, as it now stands, forms a part of "an act for establishing rules and articles for the government of the armies of the United States," approved April 10 1806; an act that still is in force. Our first article of this kind was passed in 1776, being substantially borrowed from the British military code. This British code, as it stood in 1823,* (probably the same as in many preceding years,) respecting drunkenness, ran thus: "Any officer who shall be drunk on any duty under arms shall, on conviction thereof before a general court-martial, be cashiered." And this is the only case in which drunkenness is expressly named as an offence or crime in that code. Our article of 1776 ran thus: "Art. 5. Whatever commissioned officer shall be found drunk on his guard, party, or other duty under arms, shall be cashiered for it;" while the article adopted in 1806, runs thus: "Any commissioned officer who shall be found drunk on his guard, party, or other duty, shall be cashiered."

The British article is very plain and explicit. Whether it was equally so previously to 1776, we have no means at hand to determine. Probably it was couched much after the manner of our article of that year, and that good reason was seen for modifying its language. The language used in our article of 1776, though more explicit than the British article as it now stands, may be considered as less comprehensive. The phrase "on duty under arms" can hardly be misapprehended. Its application is clear and definite. The word "party," in our article, would be the reverse of this, that is, obscure and uncertain, if it were not for the words which follow, namely, "or other duty under arms," which may be regarded as governing and explaining their antecedents, "guard" and "party." Under this limitation the latter must be looked upon as a party "under arms"—a proper and necessary amplification.

The omission of the words "under arms" in the article as it was modified in 1806, and as it now stands, would appear, at first view, significant and important, and intended to give it a latitude of application unthought of and inadmissible theretofore.

* We have not, at present, access to the code of any other date.

This, however, can hardly be supposed. It is not supposable that the modification was intended to open the article to such an extent. The term "other duty," taken in its ordinary and independent sense, would embrace the whole time of an officer, when not on leave. In one sense an officer is on duty at all times, night and day, after he has been assigned to duty at any post or station. But "the customs of war in like cases" do not warrant such a construction. The word *similar*, or some word of equivalent meaning, must be understood as coming in between the words "other" and "duty." The article has thus been practically interpreted in our army. It is probably to be regretted that the British article was not ours, or that the qualification found in our article of 1776 did not still remain.

There is no question in our service as to the application of the article, as it now stands, excepting in the case of officers who are not subject to detail for "guard, party, or other duty," of that kind. An officer in command of a guard, to whom is committed, for the time being, the safety of the garrison or camp with which he is connected, who renders himself, by intoxication, unfit for the responsible trust in his hands, becomes, in the opinion of all, properly subjected to the last penalties of the law martial. All agree that courts should have no discretion as to the punishment; that they should be constrained to cashier him. Whether he should equally suffer for such delinquency on a "party," has not been settled by practice. Few trials for charges under this head have probably occurred. In time of peace, "parties" are merely fatigue parties. In time of war, it is different. Parties are then various, and of the most responsible character. Drunkenness under such circumstances would, of course, come under the article in question. The words "other duty" may be considered as applying to "courts," "boards," "councils," &c., which are frequent and important, both in peace and in war. There can be no mistake as to the liabilities of drunkenness upon any of those duties.

The question that has arisen relates more particularly to an officer in command of a garrison, &c. He is undoubtedly on duty in the general sense of the word. This has not been, nor can it be, disputed. His responsibility is high and constant, and he has no escape from it while that command continues. But, is he on duty in the sense set forth by the 45th article of war? As the British article stands, and as our article stood in 1776, he is not so at all times. When on parade under arms, or at any other time on duty with his sword, he came under the full liabilities of that article. And it is no doubt understood that, at all such times, he comes under them as the article now stands. Whether he does so at all other times is the question? If an affirmative answer were necessary, in order to render such officer amenable to punishment, to a suitable degree of punishment, for palpable delinquencies, there might be cause for regret that such a construction should be entertained. But such impunity does not follow. The power to punish remains the same. An officer in command of a post, who so far forgets himself as to become in-

toxicated under other circumstances than those alluded to, and when not under arms, is still amenable to trial, and liable to the extreme of punishment, provided he has, while in that condition, debased himself as an officer and a gentleman, or done any thing to the prejudice of good order or military discipline. No citations from the rules and articles of war, or references to the customs of war in like cases, need be made to show this to the military man. The 45th article leaves no alternative to the court as to the sentence to be pronounced, upon proof of charges coming under it. Conviction in other cases may tend to the same result, though not of necessity. In the one case there is a discretion, allowing the award of a milder punishment, should the judgment of the court so incline.

The modification in the phraseology of the article here alluded to has not, probably, been much adverted to; or, perhaps, it has been generally regarded rather as an omission of redundant words, than as an amendment that was intended to give a new latitude to its application. It has not generally been thought that officers have been under greater restriction since 1806 than they were before. The same line of conduct has no doubt been pursued through both periods, under a belief that the same liabilities prevail. In the British army, it is well known that a certain latitude as to conviviality is authorized by custom, if not under a strict interpretation of its articles of war. At times when no anticipated duty interferes, indulgences are assumed, with no other responsibility than for excesses that may trench upon good order and military discipline. A similar latitude has been supposed to apply, under all the changes of our articles of war, to the hours of relaxation of the United States officers. No one has appeared to think that the omission of the words "under arms" in 1806, admonished officers that there were no hours of relaxation; that the sternness of an inexorable rule followed him in season and out of season. These remarks allude, of course, only to the operations of military laws; not to moral rules, which bind alike in private and in public.

We have no published records of courts-martial proceedings, to give us the course of usage of our service in this respect; to our shame, it may be added, in any respect. We have no book of precedents to refer to as a guide in our military trials; greatly to the hindrance of just judgment. Nothing of this kind belongs to our service, to give uniformity and stability to our courts-martial proceedings, in opposition to vagueness and vacillation. The British, on the contrary, have many useful works of this character, which show the current of authorities and decisions through a considerable course of years, and during campaigns likely to bring all military principles into full development. It cannot but be serviceable to give an abstract of the decisions thus arrayed in respect to drunkenness, the practice of the British courts-martial, and the operation of their martial laws, having, most justly, much influence in the U. S. service.

James's "collection of the charges, opinions, and sentences of general courts-martial, as published by

authority, from the year 1795 to the present time," (that is, 1820,) has the following decisions, &c., respecting drunkenness:

Lieut. John James, *cashiered*, for "having been drunk on the Tumbril guard." Lieut. Kirby, *cashiered*, for "being drunk on guard." Lieut. Drewy "for coming drunk into a mess-room, on Sunday evening, and conducting himself in a disorderly and ungentleman-like manner," "for breaking his arrest" while "drunk," &c., sentenced to be suspended from rank and pay for "three calendar months." Sentenced confirmed, though recommended to mercy by the court. Ensign Mackenzie, *cashiered*, "for being drunk on duty," &c. Sentence approved, with the remarks, "His Majesty considering an officer who could be guilty of drinking to intoxication in a canteen, in open day, in the presence of the soldiers of the regiment, and exposing himself in that situation to the observation of the men in the barrack-rooms, affording thereby so scandalous an example to those under his command, an improper person to bear his majesty's commission."

Hospital mate Manning, *dismissed*, "for being drunk, on duty, in the hospital," &c., and "for breaking his arrest," &c. Col. Sir Charles Hotham, *cashiered*, "for being drunk on duty." Sentence confirmed, with the remarks, that the sentence was "thus publicly communicated to the army, in order that officers and soldiers of all descriptions may be sensible that no consideration of rank or station in life, or even of past services, will induce His Majesty to pardon an offence of this nature, so injurious to the discipline of the army." Lieut. D. Sinclair, *cashiered*, "for scandalous and infamous behaviour, such as is unbecoming an officer and a gentleman," particularly in "being drunk on duty," &c. Lieut. E. Schultze, *cashiered*, "for ungentleman-like and unofficer-like conduct, in being drunk at the evening parade," &c. Capt. R. Nesbitt, *cashiered*, "for being drunk, when captain of the Newgate guard," &c. Lieut. Ludlow, *cashiered*, "for being drunk on the march of the regiment from Castello Blanco," &c. Lieut. A. Robinson, for "having got drunk at Zante, the day upon which the company he belonged to disembarked, and for having thereby incapacitated himself for exerting that vigilance and attention towards the men, which his duty as a subaltern required;" also, for "having behaved with gross irregularity in the streets of Zante," *cashiered*. Lieut. Peters, *cashiered*, "for being drunk on piquet," and "insubordination, in insulting Capt. McQueen, and challenging him to fight," &c. Lieut. Heiliger, *dismissed*, for "being drunk at the evening parade of the regiment," and conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman, in denying his signature to a promissory note," &c. Ensign J. Stevenson, *cashiered*, "for being drunk on duty," &c. Lieut. H. Maxwell, "for being repeatedly drunk, when on duty," and "disobedience of orders," &c., sentenced to be *cashiered*, and "forever rendered incapable of serving His Majesty." Lieut. W. Shuman, *cashiered*, "for being drunk on castle guard, of which he had the command," &c. Lieut. J. McQuarrie, *cashiered*, "for conduct highly disgraceful and unbecoming the character of an offi-

cer and a gentleman, in appearing at church parade of the regiment on Sunday, in a state of intoxication;" and for "being drunk, when for the duty of orderly subaltern of the day on Sunday," &c. Ensign D. Dupré, *cashiered*, "for being so drunk on guard as to be incapable of doing his duty." Lieut. Sheil, *cashiered*, "for being drunk on his guard," &c. Ensign H. Reid, "for conduct unbecoming the character of an officer and a gentleman, in being drunk and incapable of doing his duty, when commanding the main guard," &c. "The court having maturely weighed and considered, as well the evidence in support of the prosecution as what has been adduced in defence, are of opinion that Ensign H. Reid is guilty of so much of the charge against him, as accuses him of being drunk, and incapable of doing his duty; but acquit him of the first part of the charge, viz: 'conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman,' so far as it might be construed to his disadvantage, beyond the actual fact of intoxication; an article of war having been expressly provided for the punishment of the crime of which the prisoner has been found guilty, and no circumstance of aggravation having attended it, to render it such as appears to be the object of the twenty-eighth article, sixteenth section, of the articles of war," *cashiered*. Ensign Carmody, *cashiered*, "for scandalous and infamous conduct, such as is unbecoming the character of an officer and a gentleman, in appearing in the streets of Fort Royal in a state of intoxication, during the performance of a Roman Catholic ceremony," "for disobedience of his superior officer's orders, in not repairing immediately to his quarters when ordered in arrest," and for interfering with the guard. Capt. Ed. Fitzpatrick, "for appearing in a state of intoxication on the public parade," when his "regiment was preparing to go into the trenches," &c., and "in being drunk on duty," *cashiered*, and sentence approved, though accompanied by a recommendation to mercy, "in consideration of the long services," and "very high character" of the accused.

Lieut. James O'Flannagan, *cashiered*, "for being drunk when paraded for piquet," &c. Lieut. Atkins, *cashiered*, "for being drunk on duty," &c. Lieut. McNaughton, *cashiered*, "for being drunk on duty," &c. Lieut. Anderson, *cashiered*, "for being drunk and riotous in barracks, attempting to force a sentinel placed over him," &c. Recommended to mercy; but sentence confirmed. Capt. Freeman, *cashiered*, "for conduct unbecoming the officer and the gentleman, and highly prejudicial to military discipline, in appearing in the streets of Menin, in a most disgraceful state of intoxication, and exposing himself in the presence of a private soldier," &c. Ensign Robinson, *cashiered*, "for being drunk when on piquet," and "for being in a state of intoxication when under arrest," &c. Lieut. Burke, *cashiered*, "for being drunk while on duty as an officer of the watch on board the Transport Plough." Lieut. Parker, "for unofficer-like conduct in being drunk when in command of the main guard," and "for misapplying, or making away with a sum supplied to him by the Regimental Paymaster for the subsistence of the company entrusted to his charge," *cash-*

iered, and to make good the deficiency. Lieut. Charles W. Stewart, for being "intoxicated whilst on duty on board the Line Transport," and "in being drunk when in arrest," &c., *cashiered*, but recommended to mercy; sentence commuted to "half pay." Court animadverted on the conduct of the prosecutor, and the Prince Regent approves the censure of the court, with an "admonition to be circumspect in his future conduct; an assurance of which, from the authority under which he serves, will be necessary before he can be considered eligible to advancement in his profession." Lieut. Mockler, *cashiered*, "for appearing drunk on parade, telling a falsehood, signing a false certificate," and "breach of his word." Lieut. Winrow, found guilty by the court of "irregular and improper conduct, in appearing on the general parade of the battalion when not perfectly free from the effects of liquor," and sentenced "to lose two steps, by being placed immediately below the two lieutenants who at present stand next to him on the list of officers of the 30th Regiment.* Lieut. Col. Hog, *cashiered*, "for being drunk on duty, when under arms inspecting the guards and piquet, &c." Court animadverts on the arrest of Lieut. Col. Hog, "while in the actual command of a regimental parade, by a junior officer of the corps, regarding it as an "extraordinary," and, as far as the experience of the members went, "unprecedented occurrence." On this the Prince Regent remarks, "that the court are in error, when they suppose that circumstances may not occur, even upon a parade, to justify a junior officer in taking upon himself the strong responsibility of placing his commander in arrest: such a measure must alone rest upon the responsibility of the officer who adopts it, and there are cases wherein the discipline and welfare of the service require that it should be assumed. In the present instance, the sentence of the court appears to afford a full justification of Captain Elligood's conduct in placing Lieut. Col. Hog in arrest, though it would have been more regular, if that officer had continued to rest upon his own responsibility, without calling a meeting of his brother officers to support it by their opinion." Captain Phillips, *dismissed*, "for being incapable, from drunkenness, to execute the duty of a President of a Regimental Court Martial." Surgeon Millbank, *cashiered* "for repeated disgraceful drunkenness; particularly, whilst the regiment was under arms to carry the sentence of a court martial into execution."

The foregoing abstract is sufficient to show the character of decisions in the British service as to the military offence of drunkenness, and the applications to it, under its various aspects of the British articles of war. In every instance quoted of conviction of drunkenness on duty under arms, the extreme penalty is awarded, of course; and the sentence is almost invariably confirmed, though occasionally accompanied by strong recommendations to mercy. Conviction of the same offence under circumstances which

* The charge in this case was "for shameful and unofficer-like conduct, in appearing, on parade, in a state of intoxication," &c. Acquitted of "shameful conduct in appearing there in a state of intoxication," as set forth in the charge; but found guilty as above.

removed it from the limited range of the article expressly referring to drunkenness, does not often vary the result. Although empowered to mitigate the sentence, yet the courts seldom appear to have done so, where the safety or good order of troops has been hazarded, or where an injurious example has been exhibited. There were sometimes extrinsic facts that made a strong appeal to the compassion of the court, and which led to earnest recommendations for favor from the approving power; but this power, more impulsive, or more aloof from such influences, rarely appear to have softened the rigor of the law. Such a certainty of punishment can alone suppress, or keep within safe limits, the strong tendency to this offence which is found, more or less, in all armies. It is a well-known fact, that the British officer, however deeply and habitually he may indulge in potations at the convivial hour, (always a late one, and after "retreat," in the British service,) is not often found departing from the strictest sobriety at other hours—hours which are deemed open to the ordinary calls of duty. Hence an ardent propensity, too often of an uncontrollable character, and bursting all restraints under the allurements of any temptation, becomes, in that service, subjected to a discipline that defines and regulates its excesses.

It need hardly be remarked, by way of amplification of the foregoing observations upon the liabilities of a commanding officer as to drunkenness, that they must apply, with whatever force they possess, to staff officers, whose duties do not ordinarily subject them to detail. Each staff officer has appropriate duties to perform, on the due performance of which the welfare of the service more or less depends. These duties being anticipated and habitual, any voluntary incapacity of himself for that due performance, cannot but be regarded as an offence deserving the extreme penalty of the forty-fifth article, although the offence might not, strictly considered, be brought within its scope. The inspecting officer engaged in his inspections; the adjutant officer, the quartermaster officer, the pay officer, at their desks; the commissary officer engaged in his issues; all must be looked upon as coming under the same category. They are, technically speaking, on duty under arms. Courts-martial will no doubt decide that the forty-fifth article applies only to duties of detail, as of "guard," "parties," and "other kindred duties," and that then they have no discretion as to the sentence; but they will as undoubtedly decide, that the offence of drunkenness committed by any staff officer, or any commanding officer, while in the performance of an appropriate duty—a duty, though not of detail, yet one that habitually belongs to him, and is of importance to the public service—deserves to be visited with the same measure of severity, and that they have the power, under other articles, to mete it out.

Who hath wo? who hath sorrow? who hath contentions? who hath babbling? who hath wounds without cause? who hath redness of eyes? They that tarry long at the wine, they that go to seek mixed wine. Look not thou upon the wine when it is red, when it giveth his color in the cup, when it moveth itself aright: at the last it biteth like a serpent, and stingeth like an adder.

WASHINGTON.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7, 1843.

UNITED STATES SCHOONER GRAMPUS.

The subscriber being about to distribute the moneys placed in his hands for the benefit of the widows and orphans of the officers, seamen, and mariners who were lost in the United States schooner *Grampus*, requests that the persons interested in the said fund will transmit to him evidence of their respective claims. The proof required is an affidavit of one or more persons acquainted with the family, identifying the claimant as the widow or minor child of the person lost, and mentioning the individuals by name who constitute the immediate family left by the deceased, with their ages as nearly as practicable; and, if there be a widow and children, stating which of the children reside with her. The affidavit will be made before a magistrate, who must be shown, by a certificate under the seal of a competent court, to have been authorized to administer the oath. The affidavit of one person will be sufficient, if the magistrate before whom the oath is taken will certify that the deponent is known to him, and believed by him to be entitled to credit; otherwise, the affidavit of two persons will be required. The claimants are requested to state to whose care the money intended for them respectively shall be transmitted.

It is hoped that the publishers of newspapers in parts of the country where it is at all probable that any of the persons concerned reside, will, as an act of humanity, give an insertion to this notice.

A. O. DAYTON.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 1, 1843.

THE LATE COMMANDER VOORHEES—We learn from the *New Haven Courier*, that a monument has been erected in the burying ground of that city, to the memory of the late Commander Ralph Voorhees, who died at Smyrna, in 1842, while in command of the U. S. ship *Preble*. The monument was erected by the officers and crew of the *Preble*, as a token of their respect for the deceased, and it is described as chaste and beautiful in its design and execution.

NAVIGATION OF THE NEW YORK HARBOR.—The following memorial intended for Congress, is in active circulation among the N. Y. shipping masters.

The undersigned ship masters sailing from the port of New York, having been requested by Capt. Gedney, of the United States Navy, to examine his chart of the entrance of the port of New York and the coast adjacent, and to express their opinions what further improvements can be adopted to render the ingress or egress more safe, beg to recommend the following:

First, The light ship should be removed from her present station, to about half a mile east by south from the north buoy of the bay.

Second, That a light should be erected on Flynn's Knoll.

Third, That a land mark should be erected on the east end of Jones's Beach; also one should likewise be built about twelve miles to the eastward of Fire Island lighthouse.

EXTRACT FROM PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

FOREIGN RELATIONS.

Since the last adjournment of Congress, the Executive has relaxed no effort to render indestructible the relations of amity which so happily exist between the United States and other countries. The treaty lately concluded with Great Britain has tended greatly to increase the good understanding which a reciprocity of interest is calculated to encourage, and it is most ardently to be hoped that nothing may transpire to interrupt the relations of amity which it is so obviously the policy of both nations to cultivate.

A question of much importance still remains to be adjusted between them. The territorial limits of the two countries, in relation to what is commonly known as the Oregon territory, still remain in dispute. The United States would be at all times indisposed to aggrandize themselves at the expense of any other nation; but, while they would be restrained by principles of honor, which should govern the conduct of nations as well as that of individuals, from setting up a demand for territory which does not belong to them, they would as unwillingly consent to a surrender of their rights. After the most rigid, and, as far as practicable, unbiassed examination of the subject, the United States have always contended that their rights appertain to the entire region of country lying on the Pacific, and embraced within the 42d and 54th degrees 40 minutes of north latitude. This claim being controverted by Great Britain, those who have preceded the present Executive, actuated, no doubt, by an earnest desire to adjust the matter upon terms mutually satisfactory to both countries, have caused to be submitted to the British Government propositions for settlement and final adjustment, which, however, have not proved heretofore acceptable to it. Our Minister at London has, under instructions, again brought the subject to the consideration of that Government; and, while nothing will be done to compromise the rights or honor of the United States, every proper expedient will be resorted to in order to bring the negotiation, now in the progress of resumption, to a speedy and happy termination. In the mean time, it is proper to remark that many of our citizens are either already established in the territory, or are on their way thither for the purpose of forming permanent settlements, while others are preparing to follow; and, in view of these facts, I must repeat the recommendation, contained in previous messages, for the establishment of military posts at such places, on the line of travel, as will furnish security and protection to our hardy adventurers against hostile tribes of Indians inhabiting those extensive regions. Our laws should also follow them, so modified as the circumstances of the case may seem to require. Under the influence of our free system of government new republics are destined to spring up, at no distant day, on the shores of the Pacific, similar in policy and in feeling to those existing on this side of the Rocky Mountains, and giving a wider and more extensive spread to the principles of civil and religious liberty.

I am happy to inform you that the cases which have arisen, from time to time, of the detention of American vessels by British cruisers on the coast of Africa, under pretence of being engaged in the slave trade, have been placed in a fair train of adjustment. In the case of the *William and Francis* full satisfaction will be allowed. In the cases of the *Tigris* and *Seamew* the British Government admits that satisfaction is due. In the case of the *Jones*, the sum accruing for the sale of that vessel and cargo will be paid to the owners, while I cannot but flatter myself that full indemnification will be allowed for all damages sustained by the detention of the vessel; and in the case of the *Douglass*, her Majesty's Government has expressed its determination to make indemnification. Strong hopes are therefore entertained that most, if not all, of these cases will be speedily adjusted. No new cases have arisen since the ratification of the treaty of Washington; and it is confidently anticipated that the slave trade, under the operation of the eighth article of that treaty, will be altogether suppressed.

The occasional interruption experienced by our fellow-citizens engaged in the fisheries on the neighboring coast of Nova Scotia has not failed to claim the attention of the Executive. Representations upon this subject have been made, but as yet no definitive answer to those representations has been received from the British Government.

Two other subjects of comparatively minor importance, but nevertheless of too much consequence to be neglected, remain still to be adjusted between the two countries. By the treaty between the United States and Great Britain of July, 1815, it is provided that no higher duties shall be levied in either country on articles imported from the other than on the same articles imported from any other place. In 1836, rough rice, by act of Parliament, was admitted from the coast of Africa into Great Britain on the payment of a duty of one penny a quarter, while the same article from all other countries, including the United States, was subjected to the payment of a duty of twenty shillings a quarter. Our Minister at London has from time to time brought this subject to the consideration of the British Government, but so far without success. He is instructed to renew his representations upon it.

Some years since a claim was preferred against the British Government on the part of certain American merchants for the return of export duties paid by them on shipments of woollen goods to the United States, after the duty on similar articles exported to other countries had been repealed, and consequently in contravention of the commercial convention between the two nations securing to us equality in such cases. The principle on which the claim rests has long since been virtually admitted by Great Britain, but obstacles to a settlement have from time to time been interposed, so that a large portion of the amount claimed has not yet been refunded. Our Minister is now engaged in the prosecution of the claim, and I cannot but persuade myself that the British Government will no longer delay its adjustment.

I am happy to be able to say that nothing has occurred to disturb in any degree the relations of amity which exist between the United States and France, Austria, and Russia, as well as with the other powers of Europe, since the adjournment of Congress. Spain has been agitated with internal convulsions for many years, from the effects of which, it is to be hoped, she is destined speedily to recover; when, under a more liberal system of commercial policy on her part, our trade with her may again fill its old, and, so far as her continental possessions are concerned, its almost forsaken channels, thereby adding to the actual prosperity of the two countries.

The Germanic Association of Customs and Commerce, which, since its establishment in 1833, has been steadily growing in power and importance, and consists at this time of more than twenty German States, and embraces a population of 27,000,000 of people, united for all the purposes of commercial intercourse with each other and with foreign States, offers to the latter the most valuable exchanges on principles more liberal than are offered in the fiscal system of any other European power. From its origin the importance of the German Union has never been lost sight of by the United States. The industry, morality, and other valuable qualities of the German nation have always been well known and appreciated. On this subject I invite the attention of Congress to the Report of the Secretary of State, from which it will be seen that while our cotton is admitted free of duty, and the duty on rice has been much reduced, which has already led to a greatly increased consumption, a strong disposition has been recently evinced by that great body to reduce, upon certain conditions, their present duty upon tobacco. This being the first intimation of a concession on this interesting subject ever made by any European power, I cannot but regard it as well calculated to remove the only impediment which has so far existed to the most liberal commercial intercourse between us and them. In this view, our Minister at Berlin, who has heretofore industriously pursued the subject, has been instructed to enter upon the negotiation of a commercial treaty, which, while it will open new advantages to the agricultural interests of the United States, and a more free and expanded field for commercial operations, will affect injuriously no existing interest of the Union. Should the negotiation be crowned with success, its results will be communicated to both Houses of Congress.

I communicate, herewith, certain despatches received from our Minister at Mexico, and also a correspondence which has recently occurred between the Envoy from that Republic and the Secretary of State. It must be regarded as not a little extraordinary that the Government of Mexico, in anticipation of a public discussion, which it has been pleased to infer, from newspaper publications, as likely to take place in Congress relating to the annexation of Texas to the United States, should have so far anticipated the result of which discussion as to have announced its determination to visit any such anticipated decision by a formal declaration of war against the United States. If designed to prevent Congress from

introducing that question as a fit subject for its calm deliberation and final judgment, the Executive has no reason to doubt that it will entirely fail of its object. The Representatives of a brave and patriotic people will suffer no apprehension of future consequences to embarrass them in the course of their proposed deliberations; nor will the Executive department of the Government fail, for any such cause, to discharge its whole duty to the country.

The war which has existed for so long a time between Mexico and Texas has, since the battle of San Jacinto, consisted for the most part of predatory incursions, which, while they have been attended with much of suffering to individuals, and have kept the borders of the two countries in a state of constant alarm, have failed to approach to any definitive result. Mexico has fitted out no formidable armament by land or by sea for the subjugation of Texas. Eight years have now elapsed since Texas declared her independence of Mexico, and during that time she has been recognized as a sovereign power by several of the principal civilized States. Mexico, nevertheless, perseveres in her plans of re-conquest, and refuses to recognise her independence. The predatory incursions to which I have alluded have been attended, in one instance, with the breaking up of the courts of justice, by the seizing upon the persons of the judges, jury, and officers of the court, and dragging them, along with unarmed, and therefore non-combatant citizens, into a cruel and oppressive bondage, thus leaving crime to go unpunished, and immorality to pass unreprieved. A border warfare is evermore to be deprecated, and over such a war as has existed for so many years between these two States humanity has had great cause to lament. Nor is such a condition of things to be deplored only because of the individual suffering attendant upon it. The effects are far more extensive. The Creator of the Universe has given man the earth for his resting place, and its fruits for his subsistence. Whatever, therefore, shall make the first or any part of it a scene of desolation, effects injuriously his heritage, and may be regarded as a general calamity. Wars may sometimes be necessary; but all nations have a common interest in bringing them speedily to a close. The United States have an immediate interest in seeing an end put to the State of hostilities existing between Mexico and Texas. They are our neighbors, of the same continent, with whom we are not only desirous of cultivating the relations of amity, but of the most extended commercial intercourse, and to practise all the rights of a neighborhood hospitality. Our own interests are deeply involved in the matter, since, however neutral may be our course of policy, we cannot hope to escape the effects of a spirit of jealousy on the part of both of the powers. Nor can this Government be indifferent to the fact that a warfare, such as is waged between those two nations, is calculated to weaken both powers, and finally to render them, and especially the weaker of the two, the subjects of interference on the part of stronger and more powerful nations, which, intent only on advancing their own peculiar views, may sooner or later attempt to bring about a compliance with terms, as the condition of

their interposition, alike derogatory to the nation granting them and detrimental to the interests of the United States. We could not be expected quietly to permit any such interference to our disadvantage. Considering that Texas is separated from the United States by a mere geographical line, that her territory, in the opinion of many, formed a portion of the territory of the United States, that it is homogeneous in its population and pursuits with the adjoining States, makes contributions to the commerce of the world in the same articles with them and that most of her inhabitants have been citizens of the United States, speak the same language and live under similar political institutions with ourselves, this Government is bound, by every consideration of interest as well as of sympathy, to see that she shall be left free to act, especially in regard to her domestic affairs, unawed by force, and unrestrained by the policy or views of other countries. In full view of all these considerations, the Executive has not hesitated to express to the Government of Mexico how deeply it deprecated a continuance of the war, and how anxiously it desired to witness its termination. I cannot but think that it becomes the United States, as the oldest of the American Republics, to hold a language to Mexico upon this subject of an unambiguous character. It is time that this war had ceased. There must be a limit to all wars; and if the parent State, after an eight years' struggle, has failed to reduce to submission a portion of its subjects standing out in revolt against it, and who have not only proclaimed themselves to be independent, but have been recognised as such by other powers, she ought not to expect that other nations will quietly look on, to their obvious injury, upon a protraction of hostilities. These United States threw off their colonial dependence, and established independent Governments; and Great Britain, after having wasted her energies in the attempt to subdue them for a less period than Mexico has attempted to subjugate Texas, had the wisdom and justice to acknowledge their independence, thereby recognising the obligation which rested on her as one of the family of nations. An example thus set by one of the proudest as well as most powerful nations of the earth, it could in no way disparage Mexico to imitate. While, therefore, the Executive would deplore any collision with Mexico, or any disturbance of the friendly relations which exist between the two countries, it cannot permit that Government to control its policy, whatever it may be, towards Texas; but will treat her, as by the recognition of her independence the United States have long since declared they would do, as entirely independent of Mexico. The high obligations of public duty may enforce from the constituted authorities of the United States a policy which the course persevered in by Mexico will have mainly contributed to produce; and the Executive, in such a contingency, will with confidence throw itself upon the patriotism of the people to sustain the Government in its course of action.

Measures of an unusual character have recently been adopted by the Mexican Government, calculated in no small degree to affect the trade of other na-

tions with Mexico, and to operate injuriously to the United States. All foreigners, by a decree of the 23d day of September, and after six months from the day of its promulgation, are forbidden to carry on the business of selling by retail any goods within the confines of Mexico. Against this decree our Minister has not failed to remonstrate.

The trade heretofore carried on by our citizens with Santa Fe, in which much capital was already invested, and which was becoming of daily increasing importance, has suddenly been arrested by a decree of virtual prohibition on the part of the Mexican Government. Whatever may be the right of Mexico to prohibit any particular course of trade, to the citizens or subjects of foreign powers, this late procedure, to say the least of it, wears a harsh and unfriendly aspect.

The instalments on the claims recently settled by the Convention with Mexico have been punctually paid as they have fallen due, and our Minister is engaged in urging the establishment of a new commission in pursuance of the Convention for the settlement of unadjusted claims.

With the other American States our relations of amity and good will have remained uninterrupted. Our Minister near the Republic of New Granada has succeeded in effecting an adjustment of the claim upon that Government for the schooner "By Chance," which had been pending for many years. The claim for the brig "Morris," which had its origin during the existence of the Republic of Columbia, and indemnification for which, since the dissolution of that Republic, has devolved on its several members, will be urged with renewed zeal.

I have much pleasure in saying that the Government of Brazil has adjusted the claim upon that Government in the case of the schooner "John S. Bryan," and that sanguine hopes are entertained that the same spirit of justice will influence its councils in arriving at an early decision upon the remaining claims; thereby removing all cases of dissension between two powers, whose interests are to some extent interwoven with each other.

Our Minister at Chili has succeeded in inducing a recognition by that Government of the adjustment effected by his predecessor of the first claims in the case of the "Macedonian." The first instalment has been received by the claimants in the United States.

Notice of the exchange of ratifications of the treaty with Peru, which will take place at Lima, has not yet reached this country, but is shortly expected to be received, when the claims upon that Republic will doubtless be liquidated and paid.

In consequence of a misunderstanding between this Government and that of Buenos Ayres, occurring several years ago, this Government has remained unrepresented at that court, while a Minister from it has been constantly resident here. The causes of irritation have in a great measure passed away, and it is in contemplation, in view of important interests which have grown up in that country, at some early period during the present session of Congress, with the concurrence of the Senate, to restore diplomatic relations between the two countries.

Under the provisions of an act of Congress of the last session, a Minister was despatched from the United States to China in August of the present year, who, from the latest accounts we have from him, was at Suez, in Egypt, on the 25th of September, on his route to China.

In regard to the Indian tribes residing within our jurisdictional limits, the greatest vigilance of the Government has been exerted to preserve them at peace among themselves, and to inspire them with feelings of confidence in the justice of this Government, and to cultivate friendship with the border inhabitants. This has happily succeeded to a great extent; but it is a subject of regret that they suffer themselves in some instances to be imposed upon by artful and designing men, and this notwithstanding all the efforts of the Government to prevent it.

ARMY.

DRAGOONS.—The resignation of 2d Lieut. Charles F. Ruff has been accepted, to take effect on the 31st December, 1843.

RIFLES.—Resignation of 2d Lieut. Bayard Clarke accepted, to take effect December 15, 1843.

2D ARTILLERY.—Major J. Erving transferred from the 3d to the 2d Artillery, and assigned to duty in New York harbor.

3D ARTILLERY.—Major W. L. McClintock transferred from the 2d to the 3d Artillery.

The following promotions have been made, to fill the vacancy occasioned by the death of Captain E. Lyon:

1st Lieutenant John A. Thomas to be Captain.

2d Lieutenant Stewart Van Vliet to be 1st Lieutenant.

Bvt. 2d Lieutenant R. W. Johnson to be 2d Lieutenant.

Naval Intelligence.

U. S. VESSEL OF WAR REPORTED.

The U. S. brig *Oregon*, Lieut. Comd'g Piercy, arrived at the navy yard on the 17th inst., sixteen days from Norfolk, Va. This vessel is to be employed during the winter and spring in transporting the old iron, guns, shot, &c., from this station to New York, where it will probably be disposed of at auction, as it is considered too far gone with the rust of time for further service. The brig will sail about the 1st of December for New York. Her complement of officers consists of three, viz: Wm. Piercy, Esq., Lieut. Comd'g, H. P. Robertson, Acting Lieut., and F. M. Callender, Acting Purser. When at sea, in bad weather, the Capt. and 1st Lieut. keep watch and watch by day, and are generally both on deck during the night. Going on our iron bound northern coast, during the winter season, in an old brig, laden with iron, those gentlemen are not to be envied; but such are the requirements of the naval service at the present time and the scarcity of officers, that not even a midshipman could be allowed for the vessel.—*Pensacola Gazette*.

Nov. ARRIVALS AT WASHINGTON.

29—Lieut. P. V. Hagner, ordnance, P. Hagner's Dec.

1—Lieut. W. A. Nichols, 2d arty., Fuller's.

3—Capt. E. B. Alexander, A. Q. M., Fuller's.

Lieut. S. S. Anderson, 2d arty., Fuller's.

Capt. A. Mordecai, ordnance, Seven Buildings.

4—Lieut. J. P. McCown, 4th arty., Gadsby's.

Capt. A. Drane, 5th infy., Gadsby's.

5—Col. D. E. Twiggs, rifles, Gadsby's.

OFFICE OF U. S. CLOTHING AND EQUIPAGE, {
Philadelphia, Nov. 25th, 1843.

SEALED PROPOSALS will be received at this office, until 10 o'clock, A. M., of the **TENTH DAY OF JANUARY NEXT**, for furnishing by contract, the following Army Supplies and Materials, deliverable at the United States Clothing and Equipage Depot, Schuylkill Arsenal, in equal monthly proportions, on or before the 1st day of July, 1844, viz:—

4,000 Army Blankets, 6½ feet long, 5 feet wide, weight 4 lbs.

35,000 yards 6-4 Sky Blue (twilled) Cloth.

10,000 " 6-4 Fine Blue "

1,000 " 6-4 " (water proof.)

50,000 " 7-8 Flannel, Cotton and Wool.

30,000 " 3-4 Canton Flannel.

6,000 " 3-4 Bleached Cotton Drilling.

10,000 " 3-4 Unbleached " "

5,000 " 7-8 " " "

60,000 " 7-8 " " Shirting.

5,000 " 7-8 Bleached " " "

4,000 Uniform Caps, Dragoon and Infantry.

Hair Plumes, Red and White.

Bands and Tassels for Dragoons.

Metal Cap Equipments for Dragoons, Artillery and Infantry.

Pompons, Artillery and Infantry.

Shoulder Straps, Artillery and Infantry.

" " (brass) for Dragoons.

Epaulettes, N. C. S., Artillery and Infantry

Worsted Sashes, Crimson and Yellow.

" Binding and Cord of all kinds.

Buttons, Dragoon, Ordnance, Artillery and Infantry, vest.

" Infantry, coat.

10,000 pairs of Laced Bootees, 3 sizes (large.)

2,800 doz. pairs Woollen Half Stockings, 3 sizes.

Colors—National.

" Regimental, Artillery and Infantry.

" Camp, " "

" Guidons, Dragoons.

Felling Axes.

Hatchets.

Spades.

Drums, complete, Artillery and Infantry.

Casks for 1 year, from 1st April next.

All of which must be of domestic manufacture, and must conform in quality, and all other respects, to the standard patterns, sealed in this office, by which all supplies furnished on contracts will be tested, samples of which for woollen and cotton cloths will be sent by mail, with any additional information upon the subject, which may be desired by manufacturers wishing to offer proposals.

Contracts will be based upon *accepted proposals*: for the faithful fulfilment of which two or more securities will be required. Letters containing proposals should be endorsed, "*proposals to furnish supplies and materials*," and addressed to

HENRY STANTON,

Assistant Quartermaster General,

Nov. 23—wt Jan. 10.

U. S. A.

ARMY AND NAVY CHRONICLE, for five years—from 1836 to 1840—ten volumes, half bound, and unbound; for sale, at \$12.50 per set, in sheets, or \$15 per set, bound. Any volume or number may be had separately.

Jan. 19—tf

B. HOMANS.

MILITARY LAWS OF THE U. S., Compiled by Col. T. Cross of the U. S. Army, full bound, \$2.50, in boards \$2 per copy. For sale.

B. HOMANS.

MILITARY AND NAVAL MAGAZINE for three years—from 1833 to 1836, six volumes—bound and unbound, for sale at a very reduced price, by

Jan. 19—tf

B. HOMANS.

PRINTING of every description promptly and neatly executed at this office.

